REMARKS

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 4; accordingly, claim 4 has been cancelled. Independent claim 14 has been amended to include the human resources database recited in the preamble into the body of the claim. Claims 1-3 and 5-26 remain pending in this application. Reconsideration of the pending claims and allowance is respectfully requested in view of the following comments.

I. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-3, 5-8, 14 and 19-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Pinard et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,940,834). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-3 and 5-8

Independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 4. As amended, claim 1 requires the personal database to include employment status data indicative of the employment status of the members. The application server includes a component for recognizing the employment status data. The personal homepage for the member is disabled from any viewing on the publicly distributed network when the employment status data indicates the member is not employed by an organization.

While claim 4 (now incorporated into claim 1) was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), the Office Action acknowledged that "Pinard fails to disclose a personal database that tracks the employment status of the member and using the status to affect the functionality of the system." Instead, the Office Action relied on Graham et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0205537), a system for managing IP assets. Specifically, the Office Action cited a

"user management process" that is used to create, update and access the information in user records.

However, Graham *et al.* does not make any correlation between the "user management process" and an access control function. Instead, Graham describes a "security process" that is used to control access to the data using security tokens, such as a fingerprint scan, retina scan or security badge. There is no disclosure or suggestion that a user's employment status plays a role in the "security process" of Graham et al.'s system.

Moreover, there is a significant difference between limiting access to a user and disabling a web page associated with a user from any viewing on a publicly distributed network. Even if a user were automatically locked out of a system based on employment status information, this is <u>not</u> the feature recited in amended claim 1. Amended claim 1 recites that "the personal homepage for said member is disabled from any viewing on the publicly distributed network when said employment status data indicates the member is not employed by an organization." Neither Pinard *et al.* nor Graham *et al.* teach or suggest this feature of claim 1.

For the reasons stated above, independent claim 1, and the claims dependent therefrom, are patentable over the prior art. Applicants respectfully urge that an indication of allowability for claims 1-3 and 5-13 be provided.

<u>Claims 14 and 19-22</u>

Independent claim 14 has been amended to clarify that the personal homepage is populated by retrieving personal data from the human resources database. The human

resources database is an existing database loaded with personal data for members of a sales force. By tying the population of the personal homepage to an existing human resources database, a separate database for the homepage is not required. There is an advantage to populating the personal homepage from an existing database, rather than creating a separate database for the homepage.

While Applicants acknowledge that Pinard discloses that the templates are populated from a database, it is important to note that the information in the database must be entered prior to populating the templates. See Pinard et al., step 246 of Figure 3. There is no discussion in Pinard about populating the templates from a preexisting database. Moreover, there is no teaching or suggestion that the templates should be populated from an existing, human resources database.

For the reasons stated above, independent claim 14, and the claims dependent therefrom, are patentable over the prior art. Applicants respectfully urge that an indication of allowability for claims 14-26 be provided.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Office Action rejected claims 4 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious of Pinard et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,940,834) in view of Graham et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0205537). Claims 9-13, 15-17 and 23-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pinard et al. in view of Kitain et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,864,871). To establish a prima facie case of obviousness, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art See MPEP § 2143.03. As noted above,
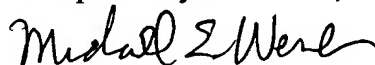
independent claims 1 and 14 include features not disclosed or suggested by Pinard.

Therefore, the rejections should be withdrawn.

III. Conclusion

With this amendment and response, Applicant believes that the present pending claims of this application are allowable and respectfully requests the Examiner to issue a Notice of Allowance for this application. Should the Examiner deem a telephone conference to be beneficial in expediting allowance/examination of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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